

# WORKERS of the WORLD UNITE THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIALIST

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## LABOR.

HEARD millions of voices speaking as one, that said:

"I am strong by nature, but weakened by abuse;  
I earn great, but receive small reward;  
I am able to work, but am denied work,  
Because Capital insists on unemployment.  
That he may buy Labor ever more cheaply.  
I am the age-long slave;  
My eyes are put out by the springing shuttle of the loom;  
My limbs are torn by the cog-wheels of machinery;  
Every nerve in my body is injured by the shocks of mechanical misadventure;  
I am burnt by the furnace;  
I am frozen at the sledge;  
I am lamed at the plough;  
I am driven and harassed and tortured,  
That Capital may gain dominion over the whole world."

And I cried: "O Lord, how long?"  
—ELIZABETH GIBSON.

## The Passing Show.

BY W.R.W.

"Every noble work seems at first impossible." Was Carlyle anticipating a common objection to Socialism when he said that?

The bands in the Melbourne Eight-Hours procession played "God save the King" in front of the Houses of Parliament. That procession had a long way to go to reach common sense.

A writer in the *National Review*, London, says: "The present Ministry consists of briefless barristers, speculative solicitors, political adventurers, and renegade peers, all more or less on the make." Yet the people of Great Britain have hopes of great things from this body.

Keir Hardie says that "the mere existence of a king is proof of the lunacy of his subjects and that crowns should beware when coronets are in the melting pot." The first part of this statement casts a great cloud of doubt on the rest. If the people are idiotic enough to support monarchy, they surely aren't sane enough to throw coronets in the melting pot.

A Mr. Ginnell, member of the British House of Commons, was recently brought to book in the House for letting the public know that its parliamentary representatives were muzzled by the party whips, who supplied lists of members' names to the speaker each day of those he had to call to address the House. The lists plainly said, "Call on so-and-so, but don't let any of those badly fellows with labor sympathies say anything." Do the whips in Australia do this sort of thing?

The *Empire Review* says that the visit of the Kaiser to the English coronation corroboree "augurs well for a new era" in the relations of England and Germany, and that "it only remains for politicians to heal their differences and let common sense prevail." Socialists know what the "new era" will be like, and how politicians will "heal their differences and let (what they regard as) common sense prevail." There will be renewed efforts to stir up strife after the coronation corroboree, and it will take Socialists all their time to keep the old savage chiefs quiet.

"God said I am tired of kings,  
I suffer them no more,  
Up to my ear the morning brings  
The outrage of the poor.

I will have never a noble,  
Nor lineage counted great,  
Fishers, and choppers, and plowmen  
Shall constitute a state."

So sang Emerson, and judging by the madness of the monarchists of all countries (and particularly of Britain just at present) the whole crowd are about to be destroyed. "They whom the gods intend to destroy, they first make mad."

When an employee leaves a Sydney employer without notice, the latter notifies the secretary of his association, who then sends a circular round to all employers in that industry notifying them that Blank has left his or her employer without notice. He or she is then boycotted out of the city. Yet press writers yap about the tyranny of union labor.

Nature for March has an article on "What consumptives ought to know." It is a review of a book on the same subject by Dr. Bardwell, and says: "In the suggestive chapter on rest and exercise, it is laid down that anyone suffering from pulmonary tuberculosis, or who has so suffered, should abstain entirely from any sport or game which entails sustained and severe physical muscular effort." This evidently applies to the well-to-do, but what of the strenuous labor of those who are weakened by the master class and made easy victims to the disease? Should they not abstain from "violent muscular effort" (in the interests of profit) and get a light billet of some sort? And shouldn't the elephantine boss, who fattens on the labor of weaker and smaller men, be asked to do a little of the work he so deftly shoulders on to others?

Dr. Hutchinson, in an article in *Outing* on "Occupations and Exercise," says, "Perhaps some day, we will realize that the most important and precious product of any industry is the kind of men and women that it makes and plan its hours accordingly." The Doctor is preaching a revolution of industrial conditions—men and women before profits!

The military correspondent of the *Times* pays a warm tribute to the military spirit of Maoriland. Socialists will have to be stirring against jingoism over there.

The miners of Rohunda Valley (Glan-morganshire, South Wales) have renewed active hostilities against the capitalists. The press refers to the matter as a "renewal of serious disturbances." Society is much "disturbed" when the men hit out for something owing to them: things only run smooth when they suffer like patient beasts of burden the impositions of their masters.

The leader of the Opposition in the Canadian Parliament said that reciprocity with its neighbor, the United States, was "mischievous and damnable." What an ass patriotism, jingoism, and loyalty make of a man!

The Senate of Sydney University stopped the students' procession this year. The students caricatured the Socialists, that was alright, but they caricatured the professional and financial magnates, and that was terrible and had to be put down. Anti-Sosh cannot stand the hose being turned on itself.

In spite of the many extremely rich men and women in Sydney, the hospital collectors failed to reach the £10,000 mark aimed at. Charity or humanity doesn't appeal to such people—a Dreadnought is more in their line. Socialists must work to civilize them.

The police refused to allow a band to play in Martin Place on hospital collection day. Under the City Council's bylaws, the politicians were fined for tooting on the political flute, and Robert, to be consistent, drew the line at band music.

Rev. Jones, of Tasmania, says that "unionists are always prepared to take the maximum of pay for the minimum of work." Well, Mr. Jones' union doesn't let its members do the maximum of work for the minimum of pay. Statistics loudly assert that parsons live far longer than the average workman does, which seems to indicate that Mr. Jones and his beloved brethren have a far better time in this world than the other fellow.

Dr. Burnett Ham, of the Victorian Public Health Department, has submitted an official scheme for a national campaign against consumption. The scheme ought to embrace the abolition of slums and their owners, and a general raising of the economic foundations of industry, but it will probably not touch such things—at least not until there are more Socialists.

George Reid, the High Cockalorum of Australia in London, is gradually eating his way to fame. He gave a dinner to a swag-ger conference crowd the other day, at his beloved country's expense of course. Advertising Australia (for the capitalists) covers as many sins as charity, and costs a fair amount, too.

Still another expedition is making for the Antarctic, this time from Germany. The Shackleton expedition made the teeth of the nations water when it came back with the report of the finding of evidence of rich mineral deposits down there. Future markets already loom largely before the minds of international capitalists.

Now that Maorilanders have had a taste of R. S. Ross's quality, they are strongly of opinion that they scored heavily when they induced him to quit Melbourne for Maoriland. Robert Hogg recently wrote in the *Maoriland Worker*: "Friend Ross comes to us well-equipped for his work. His literary ability is unquestionable, his conception of Industrial Unionism and Socialism clear-cut and scientific without being dogmatic and doctrinaire, while his enthusiasm still is keen and fresh." That is Ross, sure.

Some of the miners on strike at Tony-pandy, Wales, captured a "scab," dressed him in a white shirt, and ran him round the town, through jeering crowds. Capital is indignant at what it calls the cowardly conduct of the strikers, but Fat should remember that when it is at war, it shoots any man who goes over to the enemy whenever it succeeds in capturing him.

*Auckland Weekly News* recently asserted that Maoriland is on the down grade in spite of its great possibilities and mild and genial climate. Apart from its natural advantages, we are told, "it possesses little to attract the strenuous and gifted of the motherland."

It can offer no prizes big enough to entice captains of industry or the aristocracy of intellect. Reputations are not made in New Zealand. It is not surprising, therefore, that it is becoming more and more difficult to induce men of first-rate capacity . . . to come out to positions in New Zealand. If this is true, Maoriland is to be congratulated on its freedom, for such pirates of industry as Carnegie, Vanderbilt, Morgan, Harrison, Rockefeller are better kept out. There wouldn't be much left for anybody else if those "strenuous and gifted" gentlemen made a grab at Maoriland.

Socialism relies on brains and is gathering into its fold the best writers and thinkers of the world. The most capable and intelligent workingmen are also joining its ranks, leaving behind the ignorant, incapable scab for the capitalist. Press writers and economists who support capitalism are now regarded as a joke—a butt for every passing wit.

The *Tory Saturday Review*, London, says: "After all, the landowner is the farmer's best friend—after all it is the landowner who, for the security of the farmer, should be fixed in his tenure. For when Mr. Lloyd George and his followers in the government gave the landowner notice to quit—which they effectually do, by setting to work to scare and tax him out of existence—the landowner will go as he is compelled to, and leave the farmers to the farmers' own devices. One cannot help recalling, not with ill-nature, but with some amusement, the days when the farmer was grumbling at having to pay his rents—now he has cause indeed to grumble at the prospect of not having a landlord to pay at all."

The foregoing par indicates the quality of the stuff employed to bolster up the decaying system of Britain. That is the kind of writing that is left for the exploiters, and no man of sense can doubt for a moment that the present system must soon go down when it is left to such feeble defenders. The poor farmer is to be left without any fat monopolist to collar the bulk of his earnings. Oh dear! However will he get along without his load? One thing is certain—when the revolution comes, Britain will have to greatly increase the number of homes for incurables. Under a proper system, all capitalist writers will have to be taken care of, for they will never be able to run loose, judging by a general survey of their present abilities. A few more years, and the *Saturday Review* writers will be run into the nearest reception house for medical observation.

The steamer Mamari left London on Friday with 640 emigrants for New South Wales. Capital wants cheap labor and with the cry of "Defence" it has deluded the workers to swallow its large doses of the emigration schemes.

The Waikato Miners' Union has decided to take a copy of the *Maoriland Worker* for each member. A levy has been struck to meet the order. The paper is ably preaching Industrial Unionism and Socialism, and the miners are wisely studying it.

The *Daily Telegraph* says there are no class distinctions in Australia. Of course not. We all live at Pott's Point happily together, and the daily press is the watchdog which barks away the insidious distinctions of rich and poor. The policeman always sees the poor man safely home after a "jollo," but runs the rich drunk in. We are a fine race, and not a bit snobbish. There are no slums, brothels, or sweat-shops, no bare-faced sham, but there are one or two prevaricators, not far from King and Hunter Streets, who can trace their ancestors back to the immortal Ananias.

The secretary of the Sydney Art Gallery says that in his opinion "Australian Art is declining. Exhibitions held fifteen years ago, were superior in every way to what they are now." This is an indictment of the so-called cultured wealthy class. In their mad rush for wealth, they have no time for art, literature, or science. A few poster boardings, loudly lying about someone's pink pills or superior meat and drink, satisfies all the esthetic taste they have, and writers and artists must either live in want or take their abilities to some other country. Langstaff and Carter have done a few portraits, the money for which has been subscribed by professional men, but the wealthy have never had time to consider art.

The noosepapers have been shocked at the doings of the strikers at Renmark. A deputation waited on the S.A.C. Chief Secretary recently to ask for more police protection, and was told that the police could not be kept on a war footing for their benefit. Messrs. Lundie, Pedlar, Gunn, and Dale attended the interview on behalf of the men, which was good business, but after they were gone the Cabinet held a special meeting and decided to help the masters, who find that the men can win unless the Labor Government comes to their assistance with the police and military.

The noosepapers must have a row with some one, and failing an opportunity of getting at some foreign power, they are fomenting an interstate diversion between Victoria and New South Wales. Victorian papers are protesting against New South Wales building all the warships, and papers on this side of the imaginary boundary are saying, "Bah! You couldn't build 'em." Both regard each other as foreigners, and perhaps they are right in a sense.

W. A. Holman bids fair to become the white-haired boy of the capitalist press. He is being sedulously boomed above Wade, Wood, or any of the ancient heroes. His latest proposal to give the school children a grand out during the coronation corroboree, with plenty of empire razzle for their parents, has been hailed as a statesmanlike hit. Laborites are already beginning to sing, "Oh, Willie, is it you, dear?"

Arnold Bennett, writing in London *Daily Mail*, about miners, says that "in religion, love, work, and debauch, they are equally violent and splendid. . . . They live nearer even than sailors to that central tract of emotion where life and death meet.

Mrs. Montefiore's recent message to women, published in this paper, deservedly created a deal of feminine admiration for its talented writer. Women socialists should bring it under the notice of both sexes wherever possible.

Socialists everywhere will regret the illness of Editor Holland, who is suffering from a constitutional break down. For years he has been doing two men's work, and only an iron will and a giant heart have kept him going so long. For over twenty years he has been fighting for the pure joy of working against Capitalism, and he has met abuse, slander, gaol, and the very worst the common enemy can do philosophically and indomitably. He has given his life to the movement of emancipation. Let us all imitate his great example. Push the paper, so that when he comes back to us he may rejoice that his work has been continued as well as possible in his absence.



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### To our Contributors.

CONTRIBUTORS TO THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIALIST are reminded that our space is exceedingly limited. Therefore short articles and crisp and snappy paragraphs will have the best chance of securing publication.

Writers are asked to note that preference will be given to articles dealing with current industrial and political events from a Revolutionary Socialist viewpoint. Articles must not exceed 1000 words. Open Column contributions exceeding 500 words cannot be printed.

Write legibly, on one side of the paper only, and leave good space between the lines.

When posting, leave ends open, and mark "Press Copy Only." A penny stamp will then be sufficient from any part of Australia. Address to "The Editor." No private communication must be included.

Every contribution must bear the writer's name—not necessarily for publication.

Contributions received later than Wednesday cannot be guaranteed insertion in following week's issue.

Friends and Members visiting THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIALIST Office are urged to assist in getting business done with expedition. DON'T STAY TO TALK. We're always busy; and the delays we are subjected to in the daytime we have to make up for by working through the night hours.

**A Blue Mark** through this paragraph indicates a year subscription will expire with next issue.

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I believe that no one can harm us but ourselves; that sin is misdirected energy; that there is no devil but fear; and that the universe is planned for good. I believe that work is a blessing, that winter is as necessary as summer, that night is as useful as day, that death is a manifestation of life, and just as good. I believe in you and I believe in a power that is in ourselves that makes for righteousness. FRA ELBERTUS.

### The Church and Society.

BY THE SLAVE.

At its next meeting in Melbourne the Anglican Synod will discuss how the growing evil of class-consciousness may best be controlled.—News item.

Amongst the multitudinous forces with which the lover of liberty has to contend the Christian Church occupies an almost pre-eminent place.

From the establishment of the papal hierarchy up till the present time, the whole organised force of the church has stood as an almost insuperable barrier in the highway of human progress. The archives of medieval Christendom are stained crimson with the life-blood of men and women who grappled painfully to fathom the secrets of nature and dared to defy the dogmas of the Church. The names of John Huss, Savanarola, Michael Servetus, Giordano Bruno, and countless others persist as an eternal monument of clerical barbarity and as an undying inspiration to the seekers of a nobler civilisation.

In addition to direct persecution the pernicious influence of Christianity was manifested in the ultimate outcome of the great religious wars. Whenever Protestantism established its empire and became the dominant creed, the ancient Catholic Church revived and flourished with the new cult. Catholic and Reformer met on the arena and the contending armies of the Nazarene reddened land and sea with human blood. This mutual animosity led to the intensification of religious fanaticism, the obscuring of the mental vision, the prevention of scientific investigation and the perpetuation of ignorance and superstition. The result of this long period of religious inebriety is apparent even to-day. The inhabitants of those countries that escaped the frenzy of the contending sects thought, and their observations led to the ascertainment of the truth. The Church began to lose her power in the kingdoms of her early birth, her prolonged career and her magnificent triumphs. To-day 90 per cent of Frenchmen are avowed agnostics, religion is dead in Italy, the churches are empty and the Pope is treated with contempt, in the Belgium, Austria, and Spain

ing. In Germany, Great Britain, and Ireland, where the war of the two creeds was bitterest, religious rancor still persists and is one of the most potent weapons in the possession of the ruling class to stem the rising tide of proletarian revolt.

Though all through history the established religion has been utilised as the bulwark of special privilege to maintain the interests of the dominating classes, the church of the middle-ages was to some degree self-supporting. The existence of the modern church depends upon the financial assistance of the people, and the great bulk of her revenues are derived from the pockets of the ruling class. Little wonder that her attitude to the industrial movement is one of implacable hostility. Everywhere corporate interests are known to cast an overshadowing pall upon the pews and willingly or unwillingly the divine must raise his rancorous voice in discordant eloquence and malignant vituperation against the pathfinders of the new civilisation. Moreover the existence of a plethora of clerical forces, a surplus army of spiritual toilers who are prepared to "scab" as eagerly as a confirmed craft unionist, enables the employing classes to bring the economic pressure to bear upon any recalcitrant prelate who dares to expose the sordid grist that the mills of the profit system ceaselessly grind.

Self-preservation has compelled the church to cast in her lot with the plutocracy in an endeavor to perpetuate class rule. Progress means her death-knell. Her inherent constitution compels her to stand upon the side of the conservative element in the struggle betwixt old and new. The inauguration of Socialism means the triumph of democracy, and the church is a relic of feudalism. The establishment of Social-Democracy will mean the death of aristocracy and despite her assertions she has ever maintained the divine institution of castes.

When all reform measures and reform parties have been swept from the arena, when all intelligent men realise that reformation is an impossibility, when social revolution becomes the shibboleth of the worker, and the two opposing classes in society stand face to face in the dying days of our present social system, it is safe to predict that the church will stand upon the side of the governing class in the final struggle for the emancipation of the human race. With the inevitable triumph of the class-consciously organised proletariat, Christianity will be relegated to the same plane as the older mythologies and mankind, released from the shackles of superstition, will inaugurate the creed of the Holy Trinity of Man, Woman, and Child.

By thy name that in hell fire was written, and burned at the point of thy sword, Thou art smitten O God, thou art smitten, thy death is upon thee, O Lord. And the love song of earth as thou diest resounds through the wind of her wings, Glory to Man in the Highest! for Man is the Master of things.

### Invention a Social Act.

BY J. BLUMENTHAL.

To what traits are the opponents of Socialism being reduced to? Driven by incontestable logic from one vantage point to another, they try to maintain their deciduous position by abstract quibbles and by misconstruing facts. The argument of one blatant demagogue, a member of the Labor Party, is that it is genius and not labor which creates wealth. On the basis of that tergiversation are the fallacies of Socialism exposed.

Neither genius nor labor creates wealth. Labor transforms wealth and by so doing creates value. Concrete labor produces use value, whilst abstract or social labor measures exchange value. For labor to produce necessities and articles of use, presupposes that human kind has mental power of a very high order. But

religious reverence is rapidly vanishing. The whole of the wonderfully intricate machines of our day had their result predestined by the social solidarity of the communal clan, and the palm must be given to our prehistoric ancestors, for they invented articles of absolute necessity that we have only improved upon, such as ships, etc. Starting from that base, all improvements on ancient conceptions called inventions, merely become by virtue of the inventor having some basis to start on, a social act, because there would be no invention in that particular if there was nothing to work upon.

So it comes about that the inventor of to-day merely works on and improves some previous invention. James Watt, the father of the steam engine, only improved on a model of Newcomer's mine engine, which was given him to repair. Newcomer improved on Captain Savary; Savary on the Marquis of Worcester of the 16th century, and so on down to the Greek, Hiero, whose simple contrivance is now sometimes used as a parlor amusement. Marconi invented wireless, but if it was not for the inventors of electricity such as Volta, Galvani, Wheatstone, etc., Marconi and wireless would be unknown to-day. But for Caxton, the inventor of the printing press, the Hoe machine, the linotype and other wonderful press inventions of to-day would be unknown. Hobson an impartial author, says that some of the inventions that revolutionised industry such as those of Hargreave, Arkwright, Crompton, Cartwright, Whitney, Horrocks, etc., were simply improvements on previous inventions, there being in the case of the spinning jenny for instance, over 800 inventions or improvements before Hargreaves capped the lot with a distinct improvement, while carding is a compound of about sixty patents. In his "Evolution of Modern Capitalism," Hobson hits the genius inventor crank rather brutally: "The history of these textile inventions," he says, "does a good deal to dispel the 'heroic' theory of invention—that of an idea flashing suddenly from the brain of a single genius and effecting a rapid revolution in trade."

Not one of the inventions which were greatest in their effect, the jenny, the water-frame, the mule, the power-loom, was in the main attributable to the effort or ability of a single man; each represented in its successful shape the addition of many successive increments of discovery; in most cases the successful invention was the slightly superior survivor of many similar attempts."

What is true of practical inventions applies also to the domain of Thought. No brilliantly divine ideas flash upon the mind of a genius unless the pathway has been previously cleared by a systematic study of facts and a critical observation of natural phenomena. Darwin and Wallace, co-origina-tors of the theory of natural selection, obtained the idea of the struggle for existence by reading Malthus' "Law of Population," a theory which they improved upon by their thorough knowledge of natural conditions. Isaac Newton, discoverer of the law of gravitation, profited by the discoveries of Leibnitz, Kepler and Copernicus. Kant, formulator of the Nebular hypothesis, and his expounder, Laplace, constructed his theory from the conceptions of Newton, Descartes, Kepler, etc.

The same process of improvement goes on in all walks of human life. On the mistakes and crudities of the past is built up the scientifically constructed monuments of the present. Invention like everything else is a social production. The "genius" of inventors is non-existent. The inventor is simply a worker in a certain field, who, from everyday experience, finding something wanting to improve the machine and to lighten his labors, the suggestion to improve

would perhaps be quickly realised in fact. If this improvement has proved a financial success to this inventor, what would be the basis of compensation, remuneration, or honor due to the previous inventors? This is a knotty point for our egoistic individualists. Invention being a social act it will be a question of time when inventions will be socially-owned and used with the other means of life that are inevitably evolving towards this consummation.

### The Expanding Union.

We live in the capitalist system, so-called because it is dominated by the capitalist class. In this system the capitalists are the rulers and the workers the subjects. The capitalists are in a decided minority, and yet they rule because of the ignorance of the working class.

Now and then the workers are victorious, but only for a time. The real fruit of their battles lies, not in the immediate result, but in the ever-expanding union of the workers. This union is helped on by the improved means of communication that are created by modern industry, and that place the workers of different localities in contact with one another. It was just this contact that was needed to centralise the numerous local struggles, all of the same character, into one national struggle between classes. But every class struggle is a political struggle. And that union, to attain which the burghers of the Middle Ages, with their miserable highways, required centuries, the modern proletarians, thanks to railways, achieve in a few years. . . . Though not in substance, yet in form, the struggle of the proletariat with the bourgeoisie is at first a national struggle. The proletariat of each country must, of course, first of all settle matters with its own bourgeoisie.—Communist Manifesto.

Albert Leon Guerard writes, in the *Popular Science Monthly*, of soldiers in France, and amongst other things he says: "I was stationed at Le Havre, the second seaport in France. The barracks rose right on the quays, and I could see in all its hideousness the gross immorality which prevailed in all shipping centres. On the first day our sergeant carefully explained to the men that they should go to the brothels, on a day after sanitary inspection, and how to tell a diseased woman." He says, "I received a shock which I remember to this day." Let those Australian mothers who believe in conscription and militarism ponder Guerard's powerful sermon.

Guerard is not an opponent of militarism, he writes as a supporter of it, but he admits that "the most demoralising features in French military life are due to an incontestable progress in the French mind. Henceforth the army is considered as a useless and dangerous burden without compensation. Authors of school books may be censured for daring to print such opinions, but the majority of the French hold them in their hearts. Nay, there is a prevailing suspicion among workmen that a military establishment is kept up for the sole benefit of the capitalists, and the reckless use of troops in case of labor conflicts gives color to the contention." This French soldier evidently sees some of the truth.

Soldiering appeals to many people because it is a pretty game, though we should never forget that its always liable to become an ugly, murderous business. Soldiering will probably exist long after war has been abolished.

Several politicians were fined last week for speaking in Moore-street. In his evidence Mr. Meagher said, as Chairman of the Committee which framed the by-law under which the cases were tried, that the law was framed "against cranks" who persisted in speaking in the public streets. By "cranks" the committee presumably meant working-men socialists, and any others who might be guilty of criticising the capitalistic powers that be.

Press writers who are forever stuffing workmen with patriotic ideas about the defence of "their country" should be politely told that it isn't their country, it is their bosses', and workmen who talk about "their job," should be reminded that even "their job," is not theirs. That too is their bosses', for he has power to take it from them whenever the fit takes him. Their life, and the pursuit of happiness, is in the hands of their boss, and they are hence merely slaves.



## To Our Readers.

BY O. W. JORGENSEN.

THE serious and regrettable illness of H. E. Holland has caused widespread regret, and many expressions of sympathy are reaching the office daily. We take this opportunity of thanking all enquiring friends on behalf of comrade Holland, and to assure them that we are doing everything possible to maintain the paper at the high literary level reached by our fellow comrade. The paper will be issued as usual, under the capable editorship of Mrs. Dora B. Montefiore, who has generously placed her services at the disposal of the management. Mrs. Montefiore is deeply read and widely travelled, and we feel sure that she will do her part faithfully and well. The subscribers and readers of the paper can do much just at the present juncture. Let every reader endeavor to get one more subscriber, and let those whose subscriptions have run out promptly renew. In this way they will be showing practical sympathy for the man who has done so much for it and the class whose battles he has spent his energies in waging. The Press Fund is yet indebted some £60, and this load probably helped to worry the editor, but the management hope to be able to inform him when he reaches convalescence that the subscribers and readers have rallied to his aid in the hour of need. This would be the best news we could carry to his sick bed. Will you help? If we could tell comrade Holland that the paper was free from debt, it would invigorate him as nothing else would, and if all do their best to help, there should be no reason why we should not be able to carry the good news to him within a month from now.

Mrs. Montefiore regrets very much that, owing to comrade Holland's illness, she was unable to fulfill her engagements at Newcastle and Maitland district, but the illness of comrade Holland developed so suddenly that all arrangements were upset. She hopes at a later stage to visit the friends in the north, and trusts that in view of the unhappy circumstances comrades and friends will excuse her for the present.

## Plain Views.

BY W. R. W.

### More Reforms.

ACTING-PREMIER HOLMAN promises the Labor Party a new arbitration law leaving out the clauses under which strikers may be jailed. They are still to be fined, and to meet the growing numbers of cases in which they prefer jail to payment, the great reformer proposes to grab their wages when they commence work. The scheme is worthy of the lawyer, and a fitting reward for those who spent years in hoisting the Attorney-General into his present position. When Holman's tools come to their senses, and refuse to be further duped, the scheme will fail, for there will not be any wages to levy on. There will be no masters paying wages, and no Attorney-General to grab them—the people will be working for themselves in a Co-operative Commonwealth.

### The Referenda Sham Fight.

In the recent Referenda, it was curious to note how the miners voted. Broken Hill, Newcastle, and Western Australian miners voted solidly for the amendments, and the Tingha miners, after the defeat, called loudly for vengeance on Holman, Beeby and Co. for helping their enemy. No doubt the miners voted under the impression that the amendments would bring in the revolution, and though we may deplore their mistaken enthusiasm, we cannot help admiring their instinctive class-solidarity. They are undoubtedly a fine body of men, and a good deal further advanced towards class-consciousness than the average labor-leaguer. If readers of this paper would only push it amongst the miners in each State, the latter would not be long in seeing that there is nothing to hope for from a party whose leaders hanker after titles and run off to a coronation corroboree 16,000 miles away from their own business of educating their brethren towards revolution. Men who make "official representations" asking to be allowed to take part in aristocratic pageants, like the coronation corroboree, are hopeless in a class war.

### "Unsuitable Pictures."

Emissaries of the Attorney-General (presumably the police) have been going round the picture shows taking notes of the kind of pictures shown in those entertainments. Some were found unsuitable to children, and "representations" were made to the proprietors and they were withdrawn. Objection was taken to pictures depicting bushrangers

and policemen in conflict, especially where the latter are made to appear ridiculous. The showmen should have known better than caricature the guardians of the law, who never look ridiculous. Rumor has it now that the showmen are getting up new pictures in which things will be reversed. The bushrangers will be made to appear ridiculous, while the police will be the heroes from whose strategy there is no escape. Parsons, capitalists, titled johnnies, and kings will appear as great generals and other heroic figures fighting at the head of vast armies of aristocrats in defence of the workers and their homes. Millionaires will all be good Samaritans, handing out purses of gold to their poorer brethren by the wayside. Punch and Judy shows should also be revised, so that the policeman may be made to outwit Punch instead of the unutterable villain triumphantly hanging the innocent bobby. When these reforms have been secured, the workers no doubt will feel that they have gained all that they have been fighting for these many years. If they are still discontented, Mr. Holman will perhaps invent new methods of educating them away from revolution.

### Barrier Humor.

Broken Hill Council recently bought three horses, and named them after the local members—Griffith, Cann, and Thomas. Probably the miners out in the Silver City, feeling tired of being led by their members, have invented this way of symbolising the time when they will drive their members. How will the above members feel when they visit the "Hill," and hear the Council drivers saying: "Git up, Griff, you loafer!" "Cann, you blanky swine, got a move on, will you?" or "Thomas, you sanctimonious crawler, I'll make you sing the doxology if you don't shift yourself!"

### Eugenics and Genetics.

It is remarkable how humanity finds new names for old things and old theories. Societies are springing up in America and Great Britain which have for their objects the study of Eugenics and Genetics—Eugenics, the study of good breeding and external influences, of agencies under social control that may improve or impair the racial qualities of the future generations either physically or mentally; and Genetics, an inquiry into the physiology of heredity and variation without regard to ethical questions. Most Socialists have studied environment and the agencies under social control which make either for or against the progress of humanity, and these societies will be interesting to them when their members come to study the laws enacted by all capitalist states to protect persons and property. In early states, proprietors made their wealth on the principle that might is right, and they handed it down to their heirs. Modern states attempted to make laws for the protection of persons, and also other laws for the protection of property. But there soon were two classes—the proprietors of property and those who had no property, and the owners of property continued to encroach on the rest, and by qualifications and hereditary privileges they used the state to unduly protect property at the expense of persons, until now our states are so constructed that they allow the rich to continue their encroachment on the poor, and to keep them poor. Socialists have long asserted that the whole constitution of property, on its present tenures, is injurious, and its influence on persons deteriorating and degrading, and that the only interest for the consideration of the people is persons, that the highest end should be the culture of men and women who if cultivated and educated will develop a moral sentiment stronger than any law of the state and sufficient for the ends of justice. The Eugenic and Genetic societies must come face to face with the same problems which Socialists have met and mastered, and it will be interesting too see how they deal with them, and on which side they range themselves.

NOTE.—W. R. W.'s verses on William Morris on page 5 were inadvertently printed without correction. The first line should read: "We know his dreams shall yet come true"; 14th line, "Opened for us a paradise"; 18th line, "The world of men and meander things."

By a mistake in imposing, the first line in the 3rd column of page 2 was misplaced and should have been the first line of the 2nd column on the same page.

You can help Socialism by asking your friends to subscribe to THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIALIST.

## May Day Celebrations.

BY F. E. S. HEWISON.

MAY Day, the red-letter day of the Socialist movement throughout the civilised world, was celebrated by the International Revolutionary Socialist Party at the rooms, Pitt Street, Sydney, on Monday evening, 1st instant. The hall, decorated with the glorious scarlet, presented a pleasing appearance. From 7.30 till close upon 8 o'clock a steady stream of comrades poured into the building, which was taxed to its fullest capacity, lady comrades being present in full force. Comrade Feldhusen presided, and, in his opening remarks, apologised for the absence, through illness, of Comrade H. E. Holland. Comrade Wenzel then gave a pianoforte selection, and the Liedertafel sang "May Day," both of which items elicited hearty applause. Mrs. Wenzel followed with a song entitled "Nevermore," which was vociferously applauded. The audience were then delighted with a serio-comic song by the Misses Barnett, "Summertime." Another item by the Liedertafel, "Comrades in Arms," received well-merited applause, after which Comrade Bremen gave a song which again delighted the audience.

Comrade Mrs. Lynch then addressed the meeting. In her opening remarks she referred to the fact that it was only a few years ago when the workers would not dare to take a whole day for their annual celebration, but they had now secured that much freedom. She thought Socialists should count their calendar from May Day to May Day. Continuing, Mrs. Lynch said that the Socialists had done splendid work in recent years, and, if there was one thing Socialists were proud of, it was that they were proud of their faith. (Applause.) But, while they rejoiced in their celebration, those present felt sorry that the fighting Caesar of the movement here—Comrade Holland—had been prevented, through illness, from attending. In the trend of events, critics of the so-called Labor Party, had said, "Now was the time for the Socialist Party." Our party's time was coming, and she trusted we would make good use of our opportunities. Next year we would require plenty of workers, since things were bright for the movement. Our paper was going ahead, which was a pleasing feature. Referring to May Day meeting in the domain, she said that when they saw the immense crowd assembled, which carried the Party's resolutions without a dissentient voice, it spoke much for the solidarity of the workers. The Socialists did not intend to allow capitalism to best them. They fought capitalism the world over, and to-day they sent fraternal greetings to all comrades, no matter of what race, creed or color. (Loud applause.)

Mrs. Wenzel then sang, "In the summer morning," which met with great applause.

Comrade J. R. Wilson, in Mrs. Montefiore's absence, then addressed the meeting. In part he said that in all civilised countries—in Great Britain, Germany, France, Italy, the United States, Canada, in fact everywhere throughout the old and the new world, May Day was being celebrated by the workers. They chose this day to celebrate their ideal, which was a magnificent one. It was the old world that had given May Day its flesh and blood. Such a world-wide celebration showed the solidarity of the workers, who were beginning to awaken from their long sleep of the centuries. At last they recognised their identity of interests, no matter under which flag they lived. The signs of the times pointed to the fact that the death-knell of capitalism was drawing near, and that the dawn of freedom was approaching. They who said, as did some, that the interests of the workers were not identical, talked rot. It was a fundamental teaching of Socialism that the workers of all countries had to sell the only thing they possessed—their labor power—to the master class, whose interests were antagonistic to theirs. The mission of the Socialists was the same everywhere, it was to imbue the workers with the idea of human brotherhood. The ideal of the master class, what was it? It was the low and miserable ideal of becoming rich as soon as possible. The ideal of the worker must always be to strike for freedom. The Socialists told the workers that, at present, they had little to be proud of, but they could, however, be proud of one thing, viz., the great international movement of Socialism. Socialists endeavored to instil into the minds of the workers the ideals of freedom, of humanity, of true manhood and true womanhood. May Day would soon be recognised here as in the older countries. It was a regrettable fact that in England too much importance was attached to political movements. Political action alone would never achieve their emancipation, and here in Australia only a few months ago they found a majority of the workers' representatives (Labor men, so-called) returned to Parliament. From present indications our turn would soon come. The speaker here contrasted the result of the Federal election vote with that of the referendum, which showed somewhat a revulsion of feeling on the part of the workers. He counselled them to strengthen their industrial unionism, which was a weapon a thousand times more powerful than action on the political field. It was idle to say, as some had, that the methods of the I.W.W. must

be suitable for America, but not for Australia. Capitalistic conditions were the same the world over and required the same remedy. Only let there be efficient industrial organisation and the death-knell of capitalism would be near. It was necessary to rid the world of parasitism, of crime and of poverty. The idiocy of the so-called Labor party, in trying to benefit the workers of Australia by keeping out the Japanese, while letting in his cheaply-made goods, was touched upon. The workers were beginning to realise that better time which had been the dream of the poets, and the new era will soon have dawned, ushering in a more glorious civilisation.

The "Marseillaise" was then sung, after which the room was cleared for dancing, many indulging in this beautiful "poetry of motion."

## Notes from Adelaide.

BY H. S. C.

At the last meeting of the I.L.U., a letter was received from the union mortuary re delegate Clarke's action in refusing to withdraw a statement which he had made at the previous meeting of the mortuary. After hearing the delegates a resolution was carried requesting Clarke to continue acting as delegate to the Mortuary.

Much to the chagrin of the supporters of the alleged Labor party Clarke was present at the Mortuary meeting on Friday night.

Vice-president Hahn was in the chair, and on opening the meeting requested Clarke to leave; Clarke declined. The chairman then threatened to send for a policeman. As the threat didn't prove effective a policeman was sent for. Clarke still declined to leave unless put out, and, much to Hahn's dismay, the man in blue wasn't having any, either. The meeting was again adjourned for a fortnight.

A report has appeared in the press of an alleged shooting affray at Renmark. The circulation of this fable seems to be an attempt on the part of the growers to entice Chief Secretary Wallis to send along another contingent of police, the secretary having stated that all the growers are arming pending the arrival of extra police.

The whole of the dried fruit, which arrived in Port Adelaide owing to the scabbery of the railway men, is held up, as neither the drivers or wharf-laborers can be induced to handle it. Many amusing incidents occur daily over the efforts of few scab clerks and storemen to shift the fruit.

It is reported that the merchants have agreed to charter a ship and send all their fruit away in one shipment to other Australian ports. If an attempt is made to do so then the Renmark trouble will extend over a larger area—so large that even Hon. John's Government will be unable to "settle" it.

Labor-member Anstey is in trouble over the anti-unionist attitude adopted by the firm of Anstey and Gerard. This firm ordered their driver to cart scab nails from the firm of Harris, Scarfe, and Co. The employees being on strike against a reduction of wages, the Drivers' Union placed an embargo on all scab goods. The driver refusing to cart the nails, one of the firm of Anstey and Gerard took the dray, defied the pickets, and said he would take the goods in spite of the unions; which he did.

Anstey wrote a letter to the Rope, Nail, and Barb-Wire Union, attempting to explain the matter, but at a meeting held last night a resolution was carried condemning Anstey for his action.

This is the same gentleman, who, during the drivers' strike urged the men to fight on, and at the same time only paying his driver 17s 6d a week. It was not until he was threatened with exposure by Gunn and Pedlar, of the Drivers' Union, that he promised to pay the award rates, with back time.—1-5-11.

## The Press Fund.

Amounts donated to this Fund are devoted solely to liquidating the debt on the Printing Plant used to produce THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIALIST.

	£	s	d
Already acknowledged	-	83	18 6½
Friend (Domain)	-	0	0 11
W. Layley, Sandford (Vic.)	-	0	10 0
R. Prior	-	0	2 6
Per Mrs. E. Anderson (Book 52)	-	-	-
A. Anderson	-	0	2 6
Total	-	84	14 5½
Advanced as loans	-	-	-
Already acknowledged	-	5	0 0
Balance	-	89	14 5½

All communications to be addressed to O. W. Jorgensen, secretary, Press Fund Committee 274 Pitt-street, Sydney.

## International Socialist Party.

MEMBERS are notified that the next General Meeting will be held at 274 Pitt-street, Sydney, on Tuesday, 16th, at 8 sharp.

Business important. Members are urged to attend.

J. R. WILSON, Sec.



## Watchman, What of the Night?

BY DORA B. MONTEFIORE.

THIS is a cry that must burst from the heart of every organised worker in this country as he watches the "Labor" thermometer fall rapidly towards several degrees of "frost." Organised Labor has risked its all in putting into power its chosen representatives, but unfortunately it has been more concerned about "power" than about "principle"; and tragically it has allowed, nay even encouraged, candidates to say: "If we acknowledged we stood for such a drastic measure, we might risk our seat." And so the process of cutting and trimming down a really independent labor platform has gone gaily on, until everything essential has been sacrificed to vote-catching; while those inside the party have not been educated and developed in class consciousness, though their vote politically has been compelled. Result in Parliament—a heterogeneous and amorphous party, whose only principle is "to hang together."

For a time the great temporary wall of the Referenda proposals stood between this party and the frosty blast; now that that shelter has been blown up the organised workers of N.S.W. have the pleasure of gazing on its chosen political leaders—some watching with a pleased smile the ruins which they themselves helped to create; others standing in irritated groups calling the smilers traitors; whilst a more fortunate few are hurrying by steamer to the Home country of titles and junketings and ecronation upholstery, where they will forget for a few delirious days spent under the totem of the lion and the unicorn, the Nemesis awaiting them in the land of the wattle and the kangaroo.

"Watchman, what of the night?" . . . The night of growing industrial darkness, and storm and gloom? What of the night of the Australian wage-slaves working for eight hours 3000 feet down in a Balmain, where the heat is so terrible that men gasp and faint for air; where every morning and every evening, as they go and return to work they risk their lives on a single rope wire, as they drop into the enshrouding gloom, or return exhausted and devitalised into the outer air? What of the night of workers in the blast furnaces and iron works of Lithgow, where Hoskins with one hand strikes blow after blow at unionism, and with the other pockets rich bonuses paid to him by a Labor Government for work which the workers, and not he, create?

What of the night for the workers of Lithgow as a whole, who are threatened by the *Sydney Morning Herald* with a town and industrial growth, which will make it "a second Pittsburg?" Who that has seen the American Pittsburg with its column of smoke by day, and its column of fire by night, could ever desire to create, as an abode for human beings, a second Pittsburg?

The work of the world has to be done, even its steel and coal and iron work, but when the workers own the means of life they will be able to live out on the mountain sides away from the woeful fire and smoke; the children's school will be on the hill side, the children's playgrounds will be in the health-giving bush; the women's home work will be done by applied electricity; instead of the use of such electricity being confined to the workshop and factory; while trams and motor-buses will convey the workers back and forth to their healthy and pleasant homes. The only thing that need be left in the valley of the shadow, besides the shafts and chimneys and works, are the churches and chapels, which will help to make the Lithgow of the present the museum and object, which it should be, to the Lithgow of the future.

What of the night for the sweated white workers whose bloodless fingers guide the machines which, under capitalism, instead of freeing the worker, enslaves him in a bondage, destroying body and soul?

What of the night for the laborers working seven days a week on the Burrinjuck Dam; married men who seldom see their own children; and single men whose quarters, as supplied by Government, are rows of subdivided galvanised iron sheds, little higher than a hen house, with only a shutter to close the window—iron sheds in which no one would stable a valuable beast?

What of the night for the consciously evolving proletariat who watch Governments go, but who can see no real attack made on privilege and monopoly, no honest attempt made to give the worker a real share of the wealth he produces?

At all hazards, those who are on the workers' back (whether claiming to represent in a special degree the wage-earners of the State, or whether posing as Liberals, Democrats, Conservatives, or what not) must draw off the attention of the worker from the real issue, which is the CLASS STRUGGLE; power must be obtained or retained by those who have succeeded for the time being in getting on top. Sometimes it is Referenda proposals, which, after having been steadily abused by the *Herald* for some months, she now declares were fairly harmless! "Wrapt up in much that was intolerable there was a substratum of good in the Referendum proposals, and purged of the evil element Labor may ultimately succeed in achieving the useful part of its purpose—or Liberalism will take up the work if its turn arrives." Sometimes it is consolidation of land laws, when the people are asking for land nationalisation. Sometimes it is raising of the wages of children, when the urgent question is the prevention of children being employed in the industry or as street traders.

Workers of Australia, you can have no efficient Labor Party, unless it has a Socialist objective and a Socialist program. You cannot have an efficient political Labor party unless it is independent of capitalist votes. You cannot serve the God of Socialism and the Mammon of capitalism! As our Comrade Crawford wrote so well in his article on the "Red International" in last week's issue: "Socialism is something more than getting men into Parliament; it is something more than setting up heroes on a pedestal to be worshipped by the common herd, and purchased by the great Liberal parties. It means that ownership of tools and materials socially used shall be social and not private and individual. The transformation from private to social ownership of property constitutes a revolution, nothing else matters that is not corollary to that." I have quoted his words in full, because I want to focus the attention of the workers on that one point.

THE TRANSFORMATION FROM PRIVATE TO SOCIAL OWNERSHIP CONSTITUTES OUR REVOLUTION.

Are you prepared to take over your mines, your blast furnaces, your steel works, your land, your rivers and use them for the benefit of all instead of for the profit of a few? If so you are prepared to tell the present owners that they are no longer needed as owners, but they can step down and take a hand in the work. In doing this you will not be asking them to share the galvanised iron shed, or the seven days a week work, or the twelve hours a day at the sewing machine, or the dangers of unprotected, unventilated mines; for these conditions will then belong to the limbo of the past. The workers are out for a levelling down! They know that when wealth is produced

for use and not for profit the producers will be masters in their own house, and can make that house an industrial home instead of an industrial hell.

But no one can carry out this task for the workers, their historic mission is to carry it out for themselves. Some of us may be privileged to interpret, to encourage, to inspire; it is for the workers who have to organise in industrial unionism, in the International Socialist Party. The Red International of which Comrade Crawford and I and others dream, will have inscribed on its banner: "Education towards Revolution." But if the workers are solid and determined in their organised demand, and if the exploiters are wise, the revolution will be a bloodless one, and the red banner will symbolise the blood of the heroes who have fallen in the past, and are still falling in the struggle for industrial freedom, not that of the oppressors who under a capitalist system are many of them as much bound up, and held as hostages, as are the most exploited of the workers. It is not the individual, but the system, we condemn; unless, as happens in some cases, the individual uses his power for purposes of class expression. . . . And even then comrades, there is this consolation; just as England has ever gained her most cherished liberties under the rule of some bad or inefficient monarch, because the yoke at such times pressed most heavily and the burden of taxation or of tyranny became intolerable, so, in the industrial struggle it is the employer without a conscience who brings out in hard metallic outline the horrors of the capitalist system, and it is through the abuses of the sweater, of the contractor, of the absentee shareholder and landlord that the eyes of the mass of the people will some day be opened to the vision of things as they are, and as they should be; and then the workers of the world will unite in the Red International, and before men know THE FIGHT WILL BE WON!

For whom and for what are you waiting,  
While your comrades droop and die,  
And on every wind of heaven  
A wasted life goes by?"

So sang the Socialist poet, William Morris, over twenty years ago. . . . And people have not yet answered his pregnant question.

### Walter Thomas Mills, M.A.

W. T. MILLS, M.A., Socialist orator, thinker, and scholar, will deliver the first lecture of his Sydney course at the Protestant Hall, on Saturday evening, May 13, commencing at 8 o'clock. Mr. Mills comes with a great reputation as a speaker, the *Colorado Chronicle* going so far as to say: "Neither Beecher nor Ingersoll ever surpassed the address of Walter Thomas Mills in the Denver Coliseum," so that those who attend his lecture on Saturday evening are sure to hear a great address. His first subject will be "What is Socialism"—a lecture which thrilled his great Melbourne audience. Plans of seats are at Cole's Book Arcade, George-street, where tickets may be obtained, price 2s and 1s.

### A Note from Scott Bennett.

A short letter from Comrade Scott Bennett reached the office this week, in which he states that their meetings in the Maoriland are booming. They had "a 1500 audience" in the Opera House on the previous Sunday night, and a "£20 collection." This is brave news indeed, and we congratulate our Maoriland comrades, and hope their work will be as successful as hitherto. From other accounts we gather that Comrade Scott Bennett himself is putting in very effective work.

### Answers to Correspondents.

A.L., LITHGOW.—Subs. received; complaints attended to.

W. Layley, Vic.—Received. Thanks. Letter following.

R.P., Sydney.—Overlooked on account of the Editor's illness. Thanks. Paper going to mentioned address.

D.O'S., Vic.; A.B., Mt. Morgan. Subs. received. Many thanks.

## S.F.A. News & Notes.

### Broken Hill.

THE open air meeting on Saturday night was a huge success. The literature sale were splendid. All the May Day issues of THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIALIST were disposed of. Comrades O'Reilly, Rancie, Flanagan, and Green were the speakers.

Comrade and Mrs. Bryson called in to see us on Saturday. They intend to remain at the Hill for a short time and assist in the movement here.

Comrade Woods is conducting an economic class every Sunday morning. This class has a membership of about thirty.

A speakers' class every Monday night is conducted by Comrade Green, from Melbourne.

Things are looking exceedingly bright for the movement here just now. The membership is increasing marvellously.

May Day was kept up by Barrier Socialists at the Hall on Sunday night, before a very large attendance. Addresses on May Day were delivered by Comrades Green and J. J. O'Reilly. The following resolution was moved by E. V. Cogan, supported by M. P. Considine and H. O. Wood, and enthusiastically carried: "That this meeting of Barrier workers extend its fraternal greetings to the workers of other countries recognising that the international solidarity of the workers of all countries is the hope of the world."

### South Australia.

Splendid outdoor meetings were held on Saturday night and Sunday afternoon, when the May Day number of THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIALIST sold like hot cakes. Many were disappointed at missing such a splendid number.

On Sunday night Comrade Os. Bennett addressed a large audience in the Wakefield-street hall, his subject being, "The Twentieth Century Conflict." The comrade handled his subject splendidly and showed conclusively the necessity for an uncompromising Socialist party. After the meeting six new members joined the party.

On Sunday, May 14th, Comrade Barringer will deliver an address in the Wakefield-street Hall on "The Position in India." As our comrade has spent many years in India his subject will be skillfully handled.

The Sunday School, which is held on Sunday afternoons, is rapidly gaining in numbers, and the children evince great interest in the various subjects taught by Comrade Bennett and his assistants. A cordial invitation is given to all parents to send their children to this school.

### Sydney Jottings.

Comrade Holland is still confined to his bed, but we are pleased to acquaint comrades and friends that there has been some improvement in his condition, although it will be some weeks before he will be physically fit enough to take his place in the firing line.

On Saturday evening splendid meetings were held at Balmain and Newtown Bridge. Both meetings were remarkable for the enthusiasm and the amount of literature sold.

Sunday's domain meeting boasted the usual large attendance. Rutherford presided, and Walsh and Wilson were the speakers. There was a splendid sale of papers and pamphlets, Comrade Gaum, who is one of our most energetic literature sellers, making a record sale.

In the evening meetings were held at Goulburn and Market Streets. The speakers for the combined meetings were Rutherford, Blumenthal, Slade and Wilson.

Comrades and readers are reminded that there is a Party Premises Fund. The amount received to date is £6 5s 6d. Those desirous of assisting financially should not miss this opportunity.

### Lithgow.

At a meeting of the Lithgow Branch of the S.F.A., held on Sunday night last, it was unanimously decided: "That the secretary convey the sympathy of our Branch to H. E. Holland in his present indisposition, which we are certain has been brought about by continual overwork in trying to better the position of the working class."

### Propaganda Figures.

#### Sunday.

DOMAINS, 2.—Riley (chair), Walsh, Rutherford, Mrs. Lynch, Mandeno, Wilson.

MARKET-STREET.—Blumenthal, Rutherford, Slade.

GOULBURN-STREET, 7.30.—Riley, Wilson.

#### Saturday.

NEWTOWN BRIDGE, 7.30.—Walsh, Blumenthal, Mandeno.

BALMAIN, 7.30.—Riley, Wilson, Rutherford.

### Party Premises Fund.

	£	s	d
Previously acknowledged	5	14	6
L. Luke	0	1	0
W. Layley, Sandford, Victoria	0	10	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>6</b>

25 5



## WILLIAM MORRIS.

[FOR THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIALIST.]

BY W. R. W.

We know his dreams shall come true—  
They live in his enchanting words  
That sing to us the long day through,  
Like summer woodland birds.

We hear them chanting in the wind  
His shining deeds and star-strewn way,  
But loveliest and best defined  
Is his prophetic lay.

It falls far-echoing through the night  
Where'er we wander in the gloom,  
Above the forceful tyrants might  
It sings to us his doom.

No priests nor creeds have ever yet  
Opined for us a paradise,  
The older faiths we may forget  
His new faith never dies.

In words that burn as stars above  
The world of men and meaners,  
He taught us that the life of love  
From Revolution springs.

## International Notes.

## The British Labor Party's "Practical" Politics.

DURING the first week in February the Labor Party held a convention at Leicester. An account of what was done might lead one to think that the proceedings had no serious significance. The most important discussion raged round a revision of the party constitution recommended by the party executive. One change aroused more interest than all the others. The old constitution said: "Candidates and members must accept this constitution." This has always been interpreted to mean that candidates of the Labor Party must sign a pledge to support the constitution. In the constitution submitted by the executive this sentence is made to read: "Candidates and members must maintain this constitution." A wayfaring man might think that there is little to choose between "accepting" and "maintaining" a constitution. Yet the choice of one rather than the other is what caused the excitement at the convention of the Labor Party.

And as a matter of fact this choice of a word was fraught with deep significance. By the election of the wrong one the Labor Party sold out what little it had left of self-respect and independence.

In its decision in the Osborne case the Law Lords expressed the opinion that the signing of a pledge by candidates of the Labor Party is contrary to "public policy." The Osborne case, it will be remembered, was brought at the instance of a union man who objected to paying dues which would go to support the political activity of his union. The decision in this case took from the organisations of labor the right to use their funds for political purposes. The Labor Party, naturally, is fighting to have this decision reversed. This can be brought about most simply by having a new enabling act passed by parliament. One might think that the Labor members have done enough for the Liberals to get from them a promise to pass such an act. But such has not been the case. All that they have got has been the case. All that they have got has been a suggestion from Mr. Asquith that the unions might be permitted to raise voluntary subscriptions for political purposes!

Now the convention of the Labor Party was naturally concerned about this matter. With great enthusiasm it directed the Labor Group in the House of Commons to introduce a bill to annul the Osborne decision. In order to pave the way for such a bill, in order to escape the disapproval of the Lords, it decided to dispense with the pledges which its candidates have heretofore been required to sign. It was openly stated at the convention that these pledges have been lightly signed and lightly disregarded. But in order to show the Liberals that they have no crochety notions about the class-struggle and to demonstrate to the Lords that they are disposed to obey the law, the members of Labor Party convention voted to do away with the party pledge.

This is the secret of the excitement; "Accept this constitution" means sign a pledge to abide by it. "Maintain this constitution" means, nobody knows what. The convention accepted "maintain" by an overwhelming majority.

So this action means that the shade of distinction which has hitherto separated the Labor Party from the Liberals has been reduced to the vanishing point. Candidates are to be supported politically and financially by the Labor Party and are to be responsible to nobody.

The leader in making the change was Mr. Ramsey MacDonald. In his speeches he affected to make great sport of theories and said much about the glories of practical politics. Apparently he voiced the feelings of the majority of delegates. It is a pleasure to record the fact that Keir Hardie fought manfully for the independence of Labor.—WILLIAM E. BOHN, in the *International Socialist Review*.

## France.

An old Communist, Auguste Michon, has just died at Geneva, where he took refuge at the age of 67.

The two editors of the *Guerre Sociale*, Merle and Almerayda, as well as a number of railwaymen who had been imprisoned in connection with the great strike, were set at liberty provisionally on March 24, after 161 days of arbitrary detention.

In spite of the prohibition placed by the Government upon Labor demonstrations on May Day, celebrations took place.

Demonstrations who were barred from entering the Place de la Concorde assembled in the Champs Elysee, where, as they refused to disperse, they were charged by the cuirassiers.

In Paris 250,000 workers celebrated May Day.

## Japan.

A member of the chamber of Peers interpellated the Government about the Kotoku affair, and declared that the Government bore an enormous responsibility in this matter. The discontent of the people was caused by misery and the severity of the law. They had directed many young people to a dangerous road. The Minister of the Interior replied that the programme contained relief for the poor, labor bureaux for those desiring to work, and the development of national education, in order to hinder the development of Socialism. In order to fulfil this task he asked for the support of the citizens. Another member asked what impression the Kotoku judgment had made abroad. The Minister replied that it appeared from the reports of the embassies that the news had been received with indifference. The next day some other members declared that this was untrue, as large protest meetings had taken place in Paris, New York, and other towns, and the foreign papers had fiercely attacked the Japanese Government. Ten members undertook to produce the proofs of the bad effect made abroad by the secret trial and executions.

## Portugal.

FABRIZIO RIBAS writes in *L'Humanite* with reference to the situation in Portugal:—

"The young Portuguese Republic has not yet overcome the difficulties that are being stirred up around it.

"After trying to deceive European public opinion by an abominable campaign of bluff and lying, the elements of the counter-revolution have now decided to attack it with all the force of their hatred.

"On the one side it is the bishops, who are going forth to fight against the Republic. After a reunion held at Lisbon, in the Palace Saint Vincent, they sent to Vigo, in Spain, the chiefs of the Jesuitical band, who were to carry on the campaign, of which the Bishop of Beja appears to be the head.

"On another side there are certain monarchists, who, at Rio de Janeiro, are preparing a plot against the Republic.

"Finally, the former dictator Franco, the Marquis of Soveral, and four or five other personages of the old regime, in continual touch with the ex-king Manuel and the ex-queen Amelia, are working from London to create a monarchist movement in Portugal by exploiting the sentiment of the Catholics and the simple credulity of the rural population.

"None of these manoeuvres have, up to the present, attained a dangerous character, as Catholicism has not many astute adherents in Portugal, and the monarchy hardly any partisans.

"At the same time it would be imprudent and maladroit to show indifference towards the attempts of the Portuguese reactionists and monarchists, for, however unimportant may be the forces which they influence at the present moment, it is certain that they count on the sympathy and support of the Spanish monarchy, and probably also of the English royal family.

"In reality it is not surprising that kings understand each other, just as thieves at a fair, and that their partisans try mutually to help each other. What is astonishing, on the other hand, is that the friends of democracy and of liberty do not strive to render effectual the solidarity which should exist between them.

"In this sense it is much to be regretted to state that the democrats and republicans of Europe have limited themselves to sending the mere expression of their sympathy to the Portuguese Republicans. It is, above all, infinitely regrettable that the Government of Republican France should not have taken the trouble to manifest its sympathy and solidarity more effectively with the new Portuguese regime.

"Some may say that it is for the Portuguese themselves to hasten the convocation of the Constituent Assembly, and to establish as speedily as possible a definite government. But whoever is acquainted with the difficulties involved in a complete political and administrative re-organisation in the lamentable situation in which the monarchy has left the country will not be surprised at the apparent slowness with which the provisional Government proceeds.

"However that may be, in the special case of Portugal it would not do to wait for England to be the first to take action in its

favor simply in order, subsequently, to follow suit.

"The European democracy is general, and the Latin countries in particular, have a vital interest in helping with all the forces at their command in the consolidation and the prosperity of the Portuguese Republic."

## Great Britain.

Two thousand girls, working at the Nelson factory of the Singer Cotton Thread Trust have ceased work on account of the manager reducing the scale of wages for piece-work.

## Vancouver.

A series of industrial struggles are taking place in the various parts of the country.

## United States.

A strike of carpenters has occurred at Los Angeles, where 500 tradesmen have gone out.

Ten thousand men connected with the great railway workshops at Pittsburg have struck work.

At Havana nearly 1000 carters have refused work.

A strike of bridge and structural iron-workers has occurred at Toronto.

In New York 9000 machinists have rebelled against their conditions of employment, and gone out on strike.

## Germany.

On March 15, the same day that the Mines Bill was read for the first time in the House of Commons, the subject of the workers in mines came up also in the Reichstag. Comrade Sachse dealt very fully with the evils and dangers existing in the mining industry, and demanded—as the Socialists have been demanding for years past—a unified mining law for the whole Empire, with Labor Arbitration Courts. He also demanded independent inspectors of mines, to be chosen by the workers themselves. An unexpected sensation was occasioned at the end of the debate, by a speech from the Polish priest, Weida, of Upper Silesia. In burning words, which showed intense feeling, he described the misery of the Silesian miners, drawing a vivid picture of how they are oppressed and injured—materially by the employers, politically by the Prussian police. When he had closed amid stormy applause from the Social-Democrats, the latter called upon the Secretary of State, Delbrück, to defend the "self-sacrificing" State from these serious accusations. He chose to be silent.

## Italy.

Ninety more Socialist women have been condemned at Ravenna for interfering with blacklegs recently. This second group were condemned to terms of imprisonment varying from three to seven months. Altogether 150 years of imprisonment have been meted out to Socialist women of the Romagna.

On the occasion of the 50th anniversary of the independence of Italy the Socialists organised enormous demonstrations in all the large towns.

The *Avanti*, writing on the question of Bissolati entering the Ministry, says: "If one or more Socialists should take office, that will only concern themselves and not the Socialist Party, which will watch with equanimity the exodus of good combatants whose tactical evolutions cannot be followed by the Socialist Party. The latter will close up its ranks and increase its activity in the militant propaganda for the realisation of its revolutionary ideal."

## Capitalism's Trail of Blood.

For it blood be the price of all good wealth,  
Good God! we have paid it in full!

The body of an old man, known as Charlie, and who was over 70 years of age, was found beside his camp at Jiggi, near Lismore.

Philip Alfred Theatham went down a gas well at Epping Railway Station. Four hours later he was found dead, having been overcome with gas.

William Davies died as the result of injuries sustained through falling from a ladder in Woodbury-street.

A 16-year-old boy named Brewer was killed by a lift at Smith and Caughey's warehouse, Auckland.

A fisherman of Port Welshpool, Chas. Peterson, was drowned from the ketch Ruby last week.

An old man named Lisle committed suicide at Launceston, while out of work.

William Toram, a slaughterman, was standing on a ladder at Glebe Island yesterday when he fell, and sustained injuries to his ribs.

John Scott, a fitter in the Tramway Department, fell from a ballast truck at St. Peters and sustained concussion of the brain.

Edward Cox was knocked down by an engine at Glenville, South Australia, and killed.

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READ, not to contradict and confute, nor to believe and take for granted, nor to find talk and discourse, but to weigh and consider.—FRANCIS BACON.

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## THE ARMY OF GOD.

[FOR THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIALIST.]

BY GILROONEY.

Jack London says that there are seven million people who call each other "comrades" or sign themselves "Yours for the Revolution."

O, seven million Socialists—and whither are they bound?

From what unvaunted silence do they come?

No blaring bands of music for their earnestness resound,

No thunder blasts re-echo from the drum. But prophetic is their vision, and their dreams will all come true—

Aye, as true as ever life and death can be. For the guiding star of promise burns resplendent in the blue,

And their triumphs are enshrined in Destiny.

Aye, seven million Socialists! methinks I see them march

Across the waiting world toward their goal. Till beacon planets glitter and the heavens form an arch

To halo man's indomitable soul! They are far apart in station, yea, and trifles lie between.

Whose numbers are as countless as the sands, But when their faith is spoken: well, we gather what they mean

And every soul amongst them understands.

O, seven million Socialists: from all the lands of earth:

And count me, comrades mine, as one of them.

Yea, the men of lofty station, and of high and holy birth.

And men who shared with me the tents of Shem.

Aye, while ever brain and sinew in my restless body last.

While ever man to man is brave and true; Just place me in the army that is ever marching past

And give me ever a Titan's work to do.

O, seven million Socialists! they've shed the dross of life—

Triumphantly they march upon their way. Toward that goal of glory where no grim barbaric strife

Intrudes upon the holiness of Day; Toward the goal of glory, where the hushes of the Night

Are pregnant with the rest that comes to those

Who labor e'er undaunted for the everlasting Right.

And earn the balm of peace and true repose.

O, seven million Socialists! the saddest school of all

Was theirs—enrolled in sweat and blood and tears:

The sacrifice was mighty, and the heritage was small.

What time they tramped in pain across the years.

For oppression was their teacher—and a heartless one is he—

The tenets of his creed are hard and grim, And "restricted Enterprise and Churchianity" are all essential attributes to him.

O, seven million Socialists—their knocking at the door.

(And Reason—grim and earnest—is the key)

Demanding all in honor's name what they have battled for:

The right to live and love contentedly. They have shed all vain pretences, and they see with opened eyes

The Truths to which their Fathers all were blind:

They've learned the fateful folly of the Toilers' sacrifice,

And their pathway thro' the future is defined.

O, seven million Socialists! I long to shout "Hooray!"

I long to wave their crimson standard high;

I long to shout a welcome and cheer them on their way.

When God's Victorious Army marches by! O, seven million Socialists—there's something in their stride

Betokening the story of the Cross— The Cross that they have carried since the Christ was crucified.

And Pilate blazed the future with his loss.

O, seven million Socialists—we know where they are bound.

And from the sweated ages they have come. Aye, seven million Socialists! I hear their words resound

From lips that thro' the centuries were dumb.

Those words were all prophetic, and their dreams will all come true;

A vast potential cavalcade are they. And in the days approaching each brave heart shall have its due—

And, hark! I seem to hear the gods Hooray!

Thomas Astles, employed at Lloyd's Gully tin mine, Greenbushes, Perth, was killed as the result of falling 30 feet from a staging connected with the mill.

## The Growth of Socialism.

BY EUGENE V. DEBBS.

NOT many of those schooled in old-party politics have any adequate conception of the true import of the labor movement. They read of it in the papers, discuss it in their clubs, criticise labor unions, condemn walking delegates, and finally conclude that organized labor is a thing to be tolerated so long, only, as it keeps within "proper bounds," but to be put down summarily the moment its members, like the remnants of Indian tribes on the western plains, venture beyond the limits of their reservations. They utterly fail or refuse to see the connection between labor and politics, and are, therefore, woefully ignorant of the political significance of the labor movement of the present day.

It is true that in all the centuries of the past labor has been "put down" when it has sought some modicum of its own, or when it has even yearned for some slight amelioration of its wretched condition, as witness the merciless massacre of the half-famished and despairing subjects of the Russian czar, a few months ago, for daring to hope that their humble petition for a few paltry concessions might be received and considered by his mailed and heartless majesty.

It is likewise true, that, in the present day, and in the United States, all the powers of government stand ready to "put down" the working class whenever it may be deemed necessary in the interest of its industrial masters.

All great strikes prove that the government is under the control of corporate capital and that the army of officeholders is as subservient to the capitalist masters as is the army of wage-workers that depends upon them for employment.

But, true as these things are, it is not true that labor is ignorant of them, nor is it true that such conditions will continue for ever.

The labor movement has advanced with rapid strides, during the last few years, and is, to-day, the most formidable factor in quickening the social conscience and in regenerating the human race. It is not the millions that are enrolled as members of labor unions that give power and promise to this world movement, but the thousands, rather, that are not trade-unionists merely, but working-class unionists as well; that is to say, working men and women who recognise the identity of the industrial and political interests of the whole working class; or in other words, are conscious of their class interests and are bending all the powers of their minds and bodies, spurred by the zeal that springs from comradeship in a common cause, to effect the economic and political solidarity of the whole mass of labor, irrespective of race, creed or sex.

These class-conscious workers—these Socialists—realise the fact that the labor question in its full and vital sense, is a political question, and that the working class must be taught to extend the principle of unionism to the political field, and there organise on the basis of their economic class interests; and, although they are engaged in a herculean task, the forces of industrial evolution and social progress are back of them, and all the powers of reaction cannot prevail against them.

The labor movement has had to fight its way inch by inch, from its inception to its present position, and to this very fact is due the revolutionary spirit, indomitable will, and unconquerable fiber it has developed, and which alone fit it for its mighty historic mission.

In the beginning the workers organised in their respective trades simply to improve working conditions. They had no thought of

united political action. The employing class at once combined to improve working conditions. They had no thought of united political action. The employing class at once combined to defeat every attempt at organisation on the part of its employees; but, notwithstanding this opposition, the trade union, which had become an economic necessity, grew steadily until at last the employers were compelled to recognise and deal with it. Being unable to destroy it, they next proceeded to control its operations by confining it to its narrowest possible limits, thus reducing it to inefficiency—from a menace to a convenience.

The late Marcus A. Hanna crushed the trade union with an iron boot in the beginning of his career as a capitalist. In his maturer years he became its patron saint. He did not change in spirit, but in wisdom. What is true of Mr. Hanna is true of the principal members of the Civic Federation, that economic peace congress conceived by far-sighted capitalists, sanctified by plutocratic prelates and presided over by a gentleman who, but a few months ago, engaged James Farley and his army of five thousand professional strike-breakers to defeat the demands and destroy the unions of his New York sub-way employees.

A new unionism has struggled into existence, and the coming year will witness some tremendous changes. The old forms cramp and fetter the new forces. As these new forces develop, the old forms must yield and finally give way to transformation.

(To be continued.)

## We Ask for Bread.

BY M.W.

AROUND us on every hand we hear this petition: "Give us this day our daily bread"; daily the cry grows more pitiful, more insistent; strong men, overburdened woman, hungry children, wailing and praying for bread, but the more earnest and heart-breaking the cry, the more stony-hearted becomes the mighty possessor of the people's wealth. Give us bread, we cry; only a fair share of the world's bread; only enough to enable us to live without fear of the morrow; just a crumb from the table of Dives for the starving shivering brother at the gate. And they, the Dives, the "mighty," the rich and strong, turn a deaf ear to this universal prayer.

It is not in charity that we ask for bread, but as our Right; surely it was not the mercy of God that condemned millions of his children to a life and death of misery, whilst a favored few should look on from the abode of plenty. Stifling what little conscience nature has given them in a continual round of amusements, pouring out riches like rain for their own pleasure, and ignoring the distress that grows greater each hour, pressing even to the portals of your stately halls and churches, and yet take no heed.

It is not cold charity doled out grudgingly, and made public; not the charity that so often conceals the biting stinging insult. Oh, no, it is not this that we pray for night and day. It is for justice, for the right to work, for the result of our labors so that we too may regain our birthright, a sane life of health and happiness.

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